

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Protective helmet ~~(1)~~ comprising a deformable internal foam liner ~~(7)~~, a plurality of rigid external shell segments ~~(9)~~ arranged on the foam liner ~~(7)~~ so as to form at least one crown segment ~~(9a)~~, at least one occipital segment ~~(9b)~~ and a plurality of transverse side segments ~~(9e)~~, and joining means made of flexible material performing joining between the shell segments ~~(9)~~, helmet ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the shell segments ~~(9)~~ and the joining means made of flexible material ~~(8, 17)~~ are joined to the foam liner ~~(7)~~ in such a way as to enable a slight sliding between the foam liner ~~(7)~~ and at least a part of the shell segments ~~(9)~~.

2. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising at least one front segment ~~(9d)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to ~~one of the claims 1 and 2~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising at least four transverse side segments ~~(9e)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising a headband adjustment means ~~(14)~~ fixedly secured at least to the occipital segment ~~(9b)~~.

5. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the adjustment means ~~(14)~~ comprise a lace ~~(20)~~ joining the shell segments ~~(9)~~ to one another and cooperating with a knurled knob ~~(21)~~ actuating tightening and loosening of the helmet ~~(1)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the adjustment means ~~(14)~~ comprise a tab ~~(23)~~ equipped with plurality of teeth ~~(24)~~ forming a

rack and designed to cooperate with a pinion ~~(25)~~ fixedly secured to the occipital segment ~~(9b)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising a textile surface covering the shell segments ~~(9)~~.

8. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the joining means made of flexible material are formed by a cap ~~(8)~~ completely covering the foam liner ~~(7)~~.

9. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cap ~~(8)~~ comprises compartments ~~(13)~~ inside which the shell segments ~~(9)~~ are housed.

10. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the joining means made of flexible material are formed by strips ~~(17)~~ joining the shell segments ~~(9)~~ to one another.

11. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the strips ~~(17)~~ are made of elastomer.

12. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the flexible joining material is made from an anti-perforation fabric improving airing.

13. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the foam liner ~~(7)~~ comprises a plurality of cut-outs ~~(11)~~ offset with respect to the separating gaps ~~(10)~~ between the shell segments ~~(9)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) Helmet according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the foam liner ~~(7)~~ comprises a plurality of thinned zones ~~(16)~~ offset with respect to the separating gaps ~~(10)~~ between the shell segments ~~(9)~~.

15. Helmet according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 14~~claim 1, characterized in ~~that~~wherein the foam liner ~~(7)~~ comprises a plurality of superposed sheets ~~(27)~~ forming a multi-layer structure.

16. Helmet according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 15~~claim 1, characterized in ~~that~~wherein the foam liner ~~(7)~~ is made of polymer foam of the expanded polypropylene type presenting good compression shock-absorbing and flexion elasticity characteristics.

17. Helmet according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 16~~claim 1, characterized in ~~that~~ it ~~comprises~~comprising a plurality of additional shell segments ~~(18)~~ joined to the foam liner ~~(7)~~ and arranged facing the separating gaps ~~(10)~~ between the shell segments ~~(9)~~.